

**As Introduced**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**H. B. No. 56**

**Representative Kelly**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Skindell, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Galonski, Sykes, Miranda, Ingram, Sweeney, West, O'Brien, Denson, Miller, J., Smith, M., Lightbody, Troy, Sheehy, Robinson, Miller, A., Brown, Smith, K., Weinstein, Howse, Boggs, Sobecki, Blackshear, Boyd, Brent, Crawley, Hicks-Hudson, Liston, Russo, Jarrells, Upchurch**

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**A BILL**

To require persons to wear face coverings during 1  
general sessions and committee meetings of the 2  
House of Representatives and to declare an 3  
emergency. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 5  
(B) of this section, during the period of emergency declared by 6  
Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, every person, 7  
including a representative, attending a session of the House of 8  
Representatives in person or attending a meeting of a standing 9  
committee, subcommittee, select committee, or joint committee of 10  
the House of Representatives in person shall cover the person's 11  
mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering. 12

(B) The following persons are not required to wear a mask 13  
or cloth face covering under this section: 14

(1) A person under the age of two years old; 15

(2) A person who is unable to wear a mask or face covering 16  
due to a medical condition or recommendation by the Ohio 17  
Department of Health. 18

**Section 2.** This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 19  
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 20  
peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is that 21  
face coverings are an essential measure to slow the spread of 22  
COVID-19. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect. 23